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United States
Department of
Agriculture

Office of the
Assistant Secretary
for Administration

1400 Independence
Avenue SW

Washington, DC
20250-0103

Mr. Dan G. Blair
Chairman, Postal Regulatory
Commission
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Chairman Blair:

Thank you for your letter to the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) regarding the Report on Universal Postal Service and the Postal Monopoly, Docket No. P12008-3.

USDA is fortunate to have a U. S. Postal Service National Account Representative to work with agencies regarding mailing concerns. We work closely with our representative, the USPS Business Service Network, and General Services Administration on mail service and policy issues. We are generally pleased with the geographic scope of services, the range of products, access to postal facilities, delivery services, level and structure of rates, and quality of service provided to USDA offices nationwide and have no specific comments on the Report.

In addition to the services provided to the Department, we would like to note the importance of USPS Service to USDA's customer base. As USDA works in most of the rural areas of the nation, it is important that the people and communities we serve have access to USPS Service.

USDA appreciates having the opportunity to review the report. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (202) 720-3291.

Sincerely,

Boyd K. Rutherford
Assistant Secretary
for Administration